



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: E. Bayne Carew
Serial Number: 09/931,510
Filed: August 16, 2001
Title: FILTER ASSEMBLY, FILTER ELEMENT, AND METHOD OF UTILIZING THE SAME

Group Art Unit: 1723

Examiner: Savage, Matthew O.

Attorney Docket No.: 64,131-003

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement included in the Office Action of December 12, 2002, Paper No. 6, Applicant respectfully elects Group I, thereby retaining claims 1-65 for prosecution on the merits. Please cancel claims 66-75 from the subject application, without prejudice.

Furthermore, in accordance with the Examiner's requirement, Applicant hereby elects Species 1. As the Examiner notes, Species 1 corresponds to Figures 1A, 1B, and 4. However, Applicant respectfully asserts that Species 1 also corresponds to Figures 2A and 2B. Finally, Applicant elects Subspecies S2 which corresponds to Figure 3B.

Claims 3 and 6-24 are readable on elected Species 1, and claims 28 and 62 are readable on elected Subspecies S2. Upon the allowance of a generic claim, Applicant is entitled to consideration of claims to all species.

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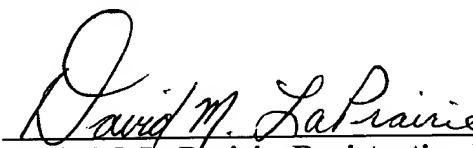
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The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-2789.

Respectfully submitted,

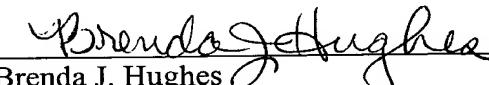
HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEYS, P.C.

Dated: December 23, 2002


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this **Response to Restriction Requirement** for Serial Number 09/931,510, filed August 16, 2001 is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on **December 23, 2002**.


Brenda J. Hughes
Brenda J. Hughes